

Q2 7 (amended). A product according to claim 77, where said microcapsule comprises alginate in combination with polylysine, polyornithine, and combinations thereof.

8 (amended). A product according to claim 77, wherein said microcapsule has an internal cell-containing core of alginate.

9 (amended). A product according to claim 8 wherein said internal cell-containing core of alginate is gelled.

10 (amended). A product according to claim 77, wherein said internal cell-containing core of alginate is not gelled.

11 (amended). A product according to claim 77, wherein said microcapsule has a diameter of from about 50 μm to about 2 mm.

12 (amended). A product according to claim 77, wherein said microcapsule has a diameter of from about 200 μm to about 1000 μm .

13 (amended). A product according to claim 77, wherein said microcapsule has a diameter of from about 300 μm to about 700 μm .

Q3 77 (amended). A microencapsulated islet cell product comprising microcapsules containing isolated living pancreatic islet cells therein, said microencapsulated islet cells exhibiting a weight gain of not more than 10 percent by weight over a period of one month in physiological saline solution at 37 degrees Celsius and exhibiting at least 150 percent basal insulin secretion in response to 16.7 milliMolar glucose challenge in Krebs-Ringer physiological solution at pH 7.4 after said period of one month.

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Please add the following new claim:

84 (new). A microencapsulated islet cell product comprising microcapsules containing isolated living pancreatic islet cells therein, said microencapsulated islet cells exhibiting a weight gain of not more than 10 percent by weight over a period of one month in physiological saline solution at 37 degrees Celsius and exhibiting at least 150 percent basal insulin secretion in response to 16.7 milliMolar glucose challenge in Krebs-Ringer physiological solution at pH 7.4 after said period of one month;

wherein said microcapsule comprises a polysaccharide gum surrounded by a semipermeable membrane;

and wherein said microcapsule has a diameter of from about 300 μm to about 700 μm .

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